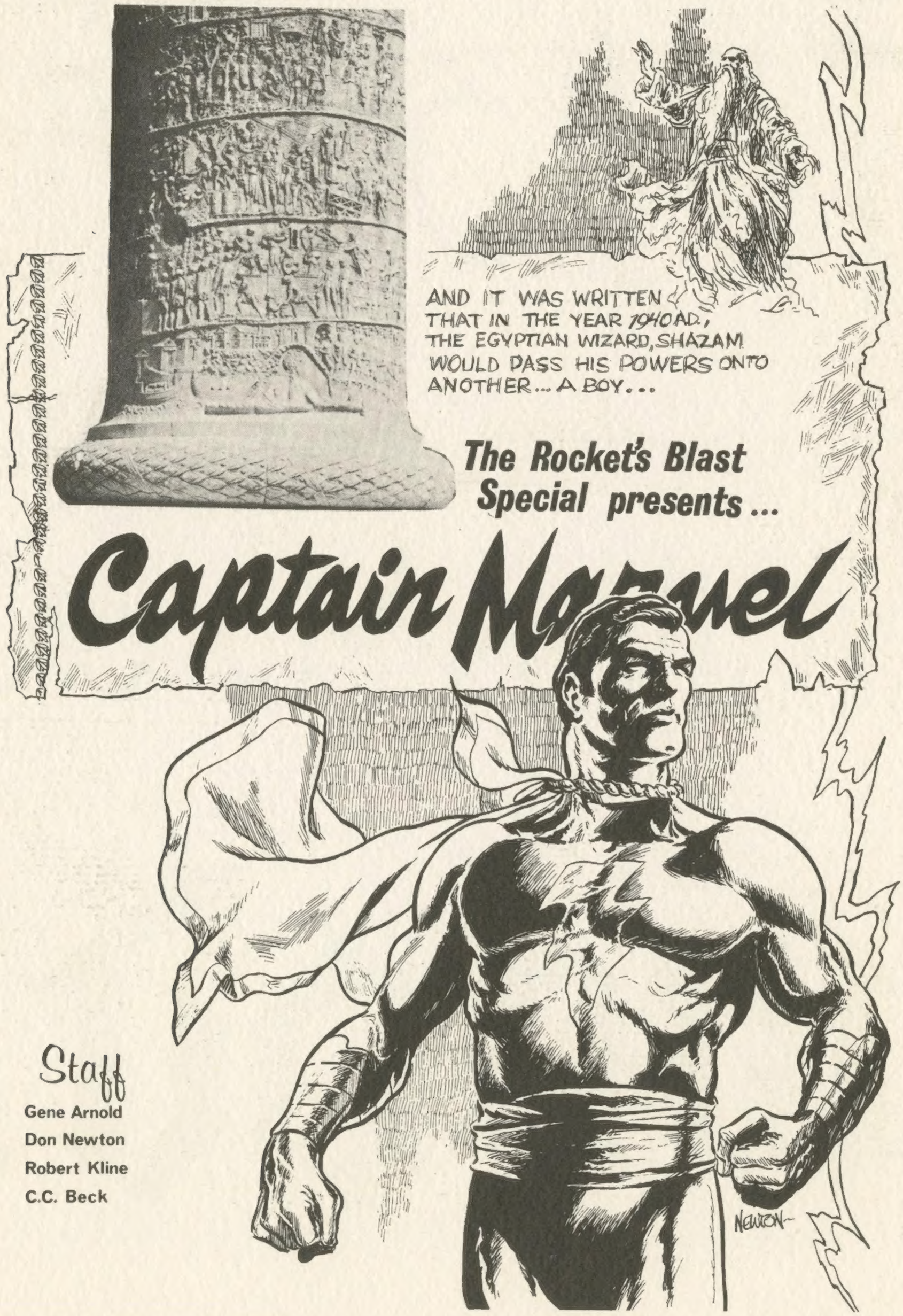
FANTASTIC EXPLOITS NUMBER 17

TRAVELLING

WILLIAMSON

WOOD.

AT LAST! AN ENTIRE ISSUE OF A FANZINE DEVOTED TO WHAT MAY BE THE GREATEST COMIC SUPER HERO OF ALL TIME--CAPT. MARVEL. WRITTEN & RESEARCHED BY GENE ARNOLD, THE LONG & INDEPTH ARTICLE CONTAINED HERE IS PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED BY DON NEWTON. EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT A CAPT MARVEL FAN, IF YOU APPRECIATE FINE COMIC ART, YOU MUST HAVE THIS ISSUE. DON WAS TRULY INSPIRED. HE HAS 3 FULL PAGE MINUTELY-DETAILED INK DRAW INGS, PLUS A 2-PAGE RETELLING OF CM'S ORIGIN IN STRIP FORM--NEWTON AT HIS BEST. BUT THAT'S NOT ALL. IT ALSO CONTAIN'S A 2 PAGE CENTERSPREAD DONE IN WASH BY ROBERT KLINE, FEATURING THE MARVEL FAMILY--AGAIN, KLINE AT HIS BEST. PLUS, WE HAD THE MAN HIMSELF, C.C. BECK, DO THE INSIDE BACK COVER. ALL THIS, PLUS A 5-COLOR PANORAMIC FRONT & BACK COVER BY DON NEWTON. FOR YOUR COPY OF "THE ROCKET'S BLAST SPECIAL" #8 SEND $1.00 TO THE SFCA, 9875 SW 212 ST., MIAMI, FLA. 33157. ADD 25¢ EXTRA IF YOU WANT IT SENT FIRST CLASS MAIL.



Staff

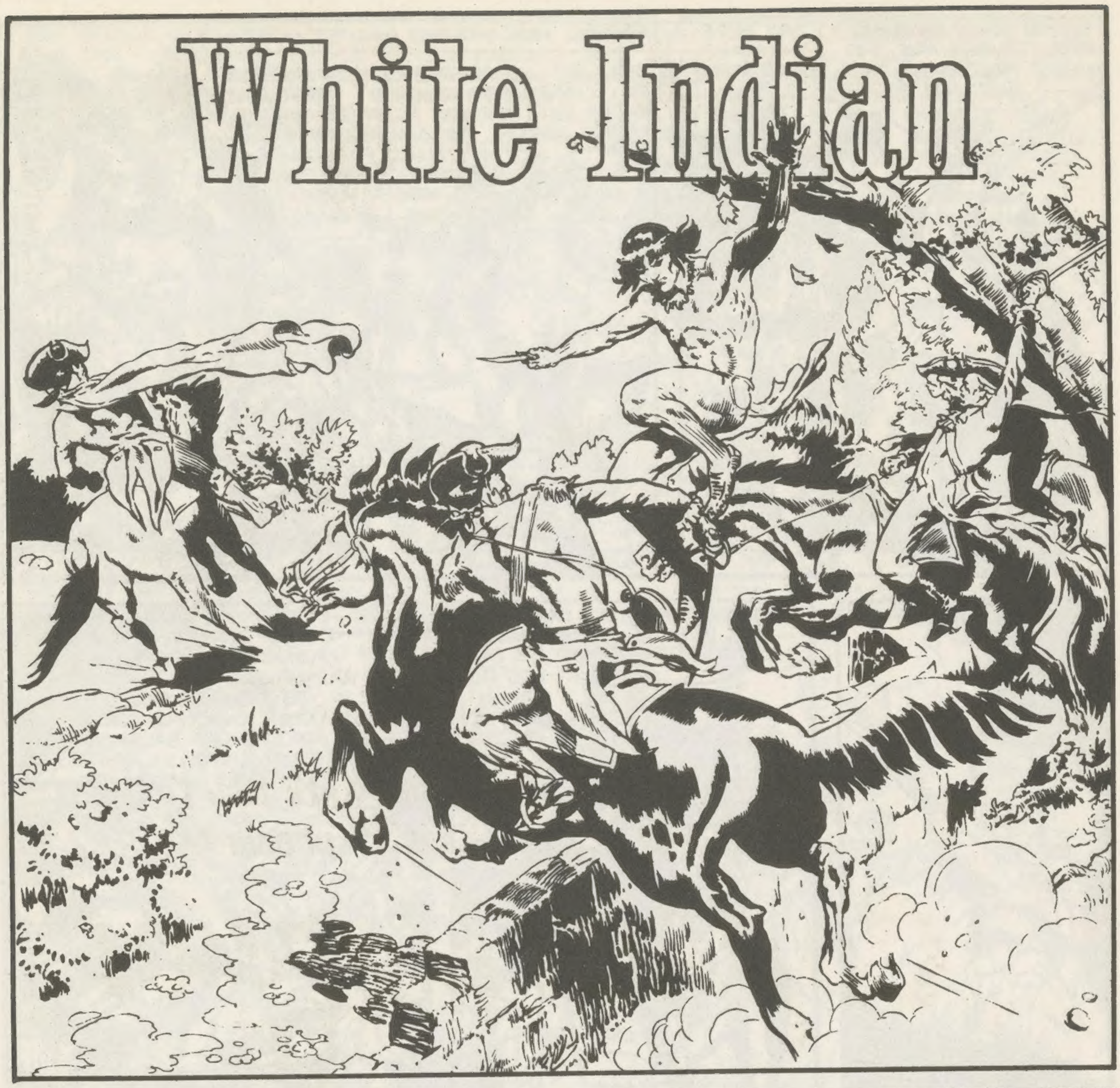
Gene Arnold

Don Newton

Robert Kline

C.C. Beck

White Indian



APRIL, 1780... THE CAROLINAS! THE BRITISH HAVE JUST WON A MAJOR VICTORY AT CAMDEN— AND THERE ARE MANY PATRIOT-PRISONERS!

GET A MOVE ON, YOU REBEL SCUM! WE HAVE TO REACH CHARLESTON BY NIGHTFALL

WITHOUT WARNING, A TATTERED BAND GALLOPS OUT OF THE FOREST.

IT'S THE SWAMP FOX... AND HIS GUERRILLA RAIDERS!

STAND YOUR GROUND, MEN! THESE ARE THE KING'S PRISONERS — THEY MUST NOT ESCAPE!

THEY WERE THE KING'S PRISONERS, YOU MEAN! AT THEM, RAIDERS!

SEVERAL HARD-FOUGHT MINUTES LATER—

I'VE LOST THE PRISONERS! ...BUT THERE'S STILL CHANCE FOR REVENGE! THE RAIDER WITH THE HAT MUST BE FRANCIS MARION, *THE SWAMP FOX!* AN OLD FOX-HUNTER LIKE ME CAN'T MISS AT THIS RANGE!

GOOD SHOT! WHY, IT'S *DAN BRAND!* ...BACK INTO THE WOODS, RAIDERS — WE'VE DONE WHAT WE CAME TO DO!

LATER—

DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE IN THESE PARTS

TIPI AND I BEAR GREETINGS FROM GENERAL GREENE. HE'S GRATEFUL FOR YOUR WORK UP TILL NOW—BUT MUST BE ASSURED THAT YOU'LL KEEP KNOCKING CORNWALLIS' TROOPS OFF BALANCE WITH YOUR GUERRILLA TACTICS TILL HE ARRIVES WITH A FRESH ARMY.

THAT NIGHT, AT GEN. BURGOYNE'S HEADQUARTERS—

CONFOUND IT, ALDRIDGE— YOU HAD WELL-TRAINED REGULARS WITH YOU! AND YOU NOT ONLY LET THAT SCOUNDREL, MARION, SLIP THROUGH YOUR FINGERS— BUT YOU LOST 150 PRISONERS AS WELL!

WITH THE GENERAL'S PERMISSION, SIR— IF FROM THIS TIME ON I COULD DEVOTE ALL MY ENERGIES TO CAPTURING THE SWAMP FOX...

...YOU HAVE MY WORD, I'LL BAG HIM FOR YOU!

ALDRIDGE'S PRIDE IS SMARTING! *HMMM* —BACK IN ENGLAND HE WAS A WELL-KNOWN *FOX-HUNTER*. IT COULD BE THAT HE'S JUST THE MAN TO LET LOOSE ON MARION'S TRAIL!

GEN. GREENE NEED HAVE NO FEAR, DAN — WE'LL CARRY ON FOR HIM! ALL MY MEN ARE VOLUNTEERS, AND THEIR HORSES ARE THE BEST WE COULD STEAL FROM TORY TRAITORS! AND AS LONG AS THERE ARE PEWTER PLATES TO MELT INTO BULLETS, WE'LL NEVER RUN OUT OF AMMUNITION!

SEE — MY MEN NEVER REST. THOSE RASCALS OVER THERE ARE FORGING SWORDS FROM OLD SAWS AND SCYTHES!

BUT IS THIS A *PERMANENT* BIVOUAC? HOW COME THE REDCOATS DON'T MARCH AGAINST YOU?

WE KEEP MOVING ALL THE TIME, DAN! THEY NEVER KNOW WHERE WE'LL STRIKE NEXT... OR FROM WHAT DIRECTION! CARE TO RIDE WITH US TOMORROW? THE PRINCE OF WALES REGIMENT IS ON THE MOVE — AND WE'VE PREPARED A NEAT LITTLE AMBUSH.

THE NEXT DAY —

THERE THEY COME! REMEMBER, MEN — YOU HAVE ONLY 10 BULLETS APIECE. SO MAKE SURE EVERY ONE HITS ITS MARK!

AT THE SWAMP FOX'S HAND-SIGNAL —

FORWARD, MEN! THE REDCOATS ARE RUNNING FOR THE SWAMPS!

AND LOOK AT ALL THOSE SHINY RIFLES THEY'RE DROPPING!

WHEN GEN. CORNWALLIS HEARS OF THE AMBUSH —

RESULTS, ALDRIDGE — I WANT ***RESULTS!*** HOW LONG WILL THE SWAMP FOX KEEP ELUDING US...?

NOT LONG, SIR! THIS SPY HAS INFORMED US WHERE MARION AND HIS MEN WILL BE CAMPING TOMORROW NIGHT. AND I'M ARRANGING A *FOX HUNT.*

MY *HOUNDS* WILL BE A SMALL CAVALRY DETACHMENT THAT WILL DISMOUNT AT THIS POINT, AND ADVANCE ON THE FOX AND HIS MEN IN THIS FOREST! MEANWHILE, MY *HUNTERS*, AN INFANTRY BATTALION, LED BY MYSELF, WILL BE HIDDEN HERE! THE MOMENT MY 'HOUNDS' ENGAGE THE FOX, THEY WILL SOUND A *HORN*—AND THE HIDDEN 'HUNTERS' WILL CHARGE FORWARD...!

TWENTY-FOUR HOURS LATER...THE *"HUNT"* IS ON—BUT THE *FOX* HAS SHARP EYES!

LOOKS LIKE TROUBLE! PERHAPS TIPI AND I SHOULD DELAY OUR DEPARTURE!

NO NEED TO, DAN·OFF WITH YOU—WE'LL HAVE NO TROUBLE HANDLING THEM.

THE "HOUNDS" FORM THREE WIDE-SPACED RANKS—AND MARCH INTO THE SHADOWY FOREST!

PASS THE WORD ALONG—AS SOON AS THE LAST RANK MARCHES UNDERNEATH, WE'LL SHOW OUR CLAWS!

NOW!

NOT ANOTHER SOUND OUT OF ANY OF YOU! NOW QUICK—OUT OF YOUR UNIFORMS! MY MEN AND I NEED THEM FOR A LITTLE SURPRISE WE HAVE IN MIND...!

NOW FOR THE REST OF THE REDCOATS!

THE FOX SMILES AS HE STEALTHILY STALKS HIS ENEMIES. BUT THAT SMILE WOULD VANISH FAST—IF HE COULD SEE THE "HUNTERS" HIDDEN IN A RAVINE JUST OUTSIDE THE FOREST...!

WE SHOULD HEAR THE SOUND OF THE HORN ANY MO-MENT NOW!

BACK IN THE FOREST—
THEY'RE NEARING THE SWAMP! AS SOON AS THEY REACH THE SWAMP AND TURN. WE'LL RUSH THEM!

AT THEM, RAIDERS!
AIEEE!

THE STARTLED "HOUNDS" RALLY—AND ENGAGE THE GUERRILLAS LONG ENOUGH FOR THE HORN TO BE SOUNDED!

THE SIGNAL! FORWARD, MEN ... ON THE QUICK-MARCH!
DAN—LOOK!

A TRAP! MARION WILL BE CUT OFF BY THE SWAMP BEHIND HIM! THEY'LL GET HIM FOR CERTAIN!
DAN ... HOW CAN WE HELP?

DON'T BE A FOOL, DAN! WHAT CAN YOU DO AGAINST A WHOLE BATTALION!
24

THESE HORSES BELONG TO THE SCOUTING PARTY WE SAW WHEN WE TOOK LEAVE OF MARION! HAVE TO TRY TO STAMPEDE THEM...!

THE STARTLED HORSES GALLOP WILDLY FORWARD!

NEIIGH!

AND THEN—

OWW!

NOW FOR SOME FLANKING FIRE!

...TO COMPLETE THE ROUT!

BUT ONE REDCOAT HAS VEERED INTO THE BRUSH!

THERE'S THE WRETCH WHO SPOILED MY HUNT... AND WHO SHALL DIE FOR IT.

DAN—WATCH OUT BEHIND YOU!

TSK-TSK—IT'S NOT GENTLEMANLY TO COME VISITING WITHOUT A CALLING CARD!

REBEL SCUM—YOU FORCE ME TO TEAR YOU LIMB FROM LIMB WITH MY BARE HANDS!

PERHAPS YOU WILL, BUT MY GOOD RIGHT FIST...

SAYS YOU WON'T!

LATER—

WELL, ALDRIDGE, WHAT'S YOUR EXCUSE *THIS* TIME?

W-WITH THE GENERAL'S PERMISSION, SIR—IF FROM THIS TIME ON (GASP) I C-COULD DEVOTE ALL MY ENERGIES T-TO RETURNING TO ENGLAND...

LOOK, DAN—THE SWAMP FOX AND HIS MEN ARE WAVING GOODBY!

IT WOULD HAVE GONE BAD WITH OUR CAUSE, TIPI, IF THAT FOX HUNT HAD SUCCEDED! IF NOT FOR THE GUERRILLAS, THE PATRIOTS WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE OF WINNING THE SOUTHERN CAMPAIGN!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE ISSUES OF FANTASTIC EXPLOITS ALONG THESE LINES, THEN SUPPORT IT BY SPREADING THE WORD.

©70 Jim Chase

The LOST LIVES of LAURA HASTINGS

REINCARNATION-- IS IT FACT OR FANCY, READER? HAVE YOU HAD COUNTLESS PREVIOUS LIVES WHICH YOU CAN'T REMEMBER BECAUSE THEY'RE LOCKED WITHIN THE SECRET VAULTS OF YOUR UNCONSCIOUS MIND? WILL YOU HAVE COUNTLESS MORE REINCARNATIONS IN THE AEONS TO COME? IF YOU'VE EVER PONDERED ABOUT THAT, THEN LAURA HASTINGS' STORY OF HER LOST LIVES SHOULD PROVIDE A THRILLING ANSWER!

"MY STRANGE TALE BEGINS ON THAT FATEFUL MORNING WHEN I WAS LATE FOR WORK AND HURRIEDLY CROSSED A STREET WITHOUT LOOKING..."

HEY-- LOOK OUT!

THERE WAS A SEARING MOMENT OF BLINDING AGONY-- AND THEN, THROUGH THE RED MISTS OF PAIN, I SENSED THAT I WAS BEING LIFTED, CARRIED SOMEWHERE! VOICES CAME TO ME -- AS IF FROM AFAR AND ARE FADING AWAY...

SHE'S SEMI-CONSCIOUS-- BUT SHE'S A GONER! ANY INJURY TO THE TEMPORAL LOBE OF THE BRAIN IS *ALWAYS* FATAL!

SHE...SHE'S *BEAUTIFUL*-- I'VE GOT TO SAVE HER! I KNOW THAT NO ONE HAS EVER DARED CUT TOO FAR INTO THE TEMPORAL LOBE IN AN ATTEMPT TO RELIEVE CRANIAL PRESSURE-- *BUT I'M GOING TO RISK IT!* NURSE-- ADMINISTER THE ANESTHETIC!

"THEN BLACKNESS--AND THE WEIRD UNEARTHLY FEELING OF SINKING INTO A WHIRLING VORTEX-- BEING SWEPT DOWN... DOWN... DOWN..."

"SUDDENLY THE BLACKNESS WAS GONE, AND IN ITS PLACE..."

YIII! GAR-LARUI

LAL-RA!

NER-VAR!

"THEN I FELT MYSELF BEING WHIRLED INTO THE DIZZYING VORTEX AGAIN -- BUT THIS TIME, I WAS BEING SWEPT UP... UP..."

SHE'S COMING OUT OF THE ANESTHESIA -- SHE'LL *LIVE!*

OHH -- *YOU!* YOU'RE THE... CAVEMAN WHO JUST SAVED ME FROM THAT HORRIBLE SABRE-TOOTHED TIGER!

HARDLY -- I'M DR. NEIL TRAVERS, THE SURGEON WHO JUST OPERATED ON YOU! THAT TIGER AND CAVEMAN BUSINESS IS OBVIOUSLY JUST A DREAM YOU HAD WHILE YOU WERE UNDER THE ANESTHETIC!

BUT I NEVER SAW YOU BEFORE THIS MOMENT-- SO HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THE FACT THAT IT WAS ***YOUR*** FACE THAT I SAW IN MY DREAM? AND BESIDES, IT WAS CLEARER THAN ANY DREAM-- I CAN STILL REMEMBER HOW YOU JUMPED ON THE TIGER, HOW IT CLAWED YOUR LEFT FOREARM---

SAY-- I ***DO*** HAVE A CLAW-LIKE SCAR ON MY LEFT FOREARM!

I'VE HAD IT SINCE BIRTH! BUT THERE ***COULDN'T*** BE ANY CONNECTION-- IT'S JUST A ***COINCIDENCE*** THAT I RECEIVED THE SAME KIND OF A CLAW-MARK IN YOUR DREAM!

I TRIED TO DISMISS THE STRANGE DREAM FROM MY MIND! BUT A FEW DAYS LATER...

I'M GOING TO REMOVE YOUR BANDAGES TODAY, MISS HASTINGS-- AND IT'S GOING TO HURT A LITTLE! SO STEADY NOW!

THE PAIN-- I...I FEEL AS IF I'M GOING TO FAINT! THE VORTEX-- I'M BEING SWEPT INTO THE VORTEX AGAIN!

*"YES, ONCE AGAIN I FELT MYSELF BEING WHIRLED INTO THE SPIRALLING EDDIES OF TIME-- AND WHEN THE HAZE OF BLACKNESS LIFTED **THIS** TIME..."*

I AM PRINCESS SAKKARA-- *THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IN ALL EGYPT!*

BUT EVEN NOW MY SLAVES ARE BUILDING THE PYRAMID THAT WILL BE MY TOMB-- AND I CANNOT BEAR THE THOUGHT OF GROWING OLD, LOSING MY BEAUTY, ***DYING!*** I MUST SUMMON THE CHIEF NECROMANCER OF THE REALM AND FIND OUT WHETHER I CAN HOPE FOR ***REINCARNATION!***

EXALTED PRINCESS-- THE SACRED BOOK OF THOTH REVEALS THAT WHEN ANY HUMAN DIES, THE SOUL IS RELEASED TO FIND A NEW HOME, A NEW BODY! AND WHETHER IT TAKES TEN MOMENTS OR TEN THOUSAND AEONS, EACH SOUL EVENTUALLY FINDS A BODY WHICH RESEMBLES THE ORIGINAL ONE-- AND IMMEDIATELY INHABITS THAT BODY AT BIRTH, THEREBY *LIVING AGAIN!*

BUT THE NEW BODY REMEMBERS NOTHING OF ITS PREVIOUS IN-CARNATIONS. FOR SUCH MEMORIES ARE BURIED TOO DEEPLY WITHIN THE BRAIN!

YOU MEAN I MAY BE REINCARNATED INTO THE BODY OF A SLAVE GIRL, AND FORGET THE GLORIES THAT WERE MINE? THE MERE THOUGHT OF THAT IS INTOLER-ABLE-- YOU MUST ***DO*** SOMETHING ABOUT IT, NECROMANCER-- OR I WILL HAVE YOUR HEAD!

AH, BUT I *CAN* DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT, *MY* PRINCESS! QUAFF THE MAGICAL LIQUID IN THIS FLASK— AND YOU WILL REMEMBER YOUR ROYAL STATE IN ALL YOUR FUTURE REINCARNATIONS!

QUICKLY-- LET ME HAVE IT!

IT.. IT BURNS LIKE FIRE! I... I FEEL FAINT..

THE DRINK IS INDEED POWERFUL-- BUT YOU *MUST FINISH* IT!

HA, BY THIS TIME YOUR WILL IS PARALYZED-- NOW I CAN TELL YOU *MORE* ABOUT THIS MAGICAL LIQUID! FIRST, IT WILL HELP YOU TO REMEMBER YOUR PREVIOUS INCARNATIONS ONLY IF AN OPERATION IS PERFORMED ON THE TEMPORAL SEGMENT OF YOUR BRAIN IN SOME FUTURE REINCARNATION! AND SECONDLY, THE DRINK IS *FATAL!*

YOU SEE, I AM HOPELESSLY IN LOVE WITH YOU, PRINCESS! I CONSULTED THE ORACLE AT THEBES AND LEARNED THAT WE HAVE BEEN AND ALWAYS WILL BE DESTINED FOR EACH OTHER IN *ALL* OUR REINCARNATIONS-- BUT I KNEW THAT A ROYAL PRINCESS COULD NEVER MARRY A NECROMANCER, A MERE MAGICIAN! AND AFTER YOU HAVE TAKEN ENOUGH OF THE FATAL DRINK-- *I* WILL PLUNGE A DAGGER INTO MY HEART-- SO THAT WE WILL BOTH DIE, AND BE CLOSER TO OUR NEXT REINCARNATIONS TOGETHER! SO DRINK... *DRINK*...

THERE-- IT IS FINISHED! *AND NOW--*

"UP-- UP INTO THE SPINNING VORTEX ONCE MORE... AND AS THE BLACK MISTS DISSOLVED, I SAW THE FACE OF THE NECROMANCER AGAIN!..."

NO, I *WON'T* DRINK IT-- YOU... YOU *MURDERER!*

THERE, THERE-- YOU'RE DELIRIOUS AGAIN, MISS HASTINGS! YOU PASSED OUT FROM THE PAIN WHEN I REMOVED THE BANDAGES!

I... I'M IN THE HOSPITAL AGAIN! BUT IT WAS ALL SO *REAL*-- AS IF I WERE ACTUALLY RELIVING SOME *PREVIOUS LIFE!*

"WHEN I TOLD DR. TRAVERS ABOUT THE EGYPTIAN EPISODE..."

IT WAS JUST A DREAM, MISS HASTINGS! BELIEF IN REINCARNATION IS SHEER SUPERSTITION!

BUT IT ALL ADDS UP! PERHAPS THE OPERATION *DID* UNBLOCK THE MEMORIES OF MY PREVIOUS INCARNATIONS! AND IF YOU AND I *ARE* DESTINED FOR EACH OTHER, IT WOULD EXPLAIN WHY YOU WERE THE CAVEMAN AND THE NECROMANCER, AND WHY I MET YOU IN THIS *PRESENT* LIFE!

IT'S ODD, BUT I FELT THAT WE WERE DESTINED FOR EACH OTHER, TOO!--BUT IT CAN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THAT REINCARNATION NONSENSE! I'M A SCIENTIST-- I *CAN'T* BELIEVE IN *THAT!*

BUT THERE MUST BE *SOME* WAY OF PROVING ALL THIS! WHY DON'T YOU CHECK UP IN THE HISTORY BOOKS AND SEE IF THERE *WAS* A PRINCESS SAKKARA... NEIL!

"NEXT DAY."

I CAN SCARCELY BELIEVE WHAT I FOUND, LAURA! THIS BOOK TELLS HOW A PRINCESS SAKKARA OF THE V*TH* DYNASTY WAS POISONED BY THE COURT NECROMANCER, WHO THEN COMMITTED SUICIDE!

THERE--THAT PROVES I'M *RIGHT!*

I *STILL* CAN'T BELIEVE IT! YOU *MUST* HAVE READ ABOUT IT IN YOUR COLLEGE HISTORY COURSES, AND THE FACTS REMAINED IN YOUR SUBCONSCIOUS MIND -- ONLY TO COME OUT IN YOUR DELIRIOUS DREAM! YOU'D BETTER FORGET ALL THIS NONSENSE AND CONCENTRATE ON GETTING WELL! YOU'LL BE ABLE TO START WALKING IN A FEW DAYS, AND WE'LL BE ABLE TO SPEND MORE TIME TOGETHER! THE ONLY PART OF YOUR DREAM THAT *ISN'T* NONSENSE IS THE PART ABOUT OUR BEING DESTINED FOR EACH OTHER!

"THE NEXT DAY, I DECIDED TO GET OUT OF BED AND SURPRISE NEIL -- BUT I SOON FOUND OUT WHY HE WARNED ME AGAINST TRYING TO WALK TOO SOON!"

I... I FEEL TOO WEAK TO STAND-- TO DIZZY---

"ONCE AGAIN THE FAMILIAR SENSATION OF BEING CAUGHT IN THE TITANIC WHIRLPOOL OF TIME ITSELF--AND WHEN THE MISTS CLEARED THIS TIME..."

I OUGHT TO BE HAPPY THAT THIS PIRATE SHIP IS BEING ATTACKED-- I *HATE* THE BUCCANEERS WHO CAPTURED ME AND HELD ME FOR RANSOM! BUT IF THIS IS THE END FOR THEM, IT MEANS *MY* END, TOO! PIRATES ALWAYS KILL THEIR HOSTAGES WHEN THEY'RE LOSING A BATTLE! I...I GUESS THIS IS MY EXECUTIONER COMING NOW!

KA-BOOM!

THREE BRITISH FRIGATES HAVE CORNERED US IN THE COVE-- AND THEY'RE BLASTING US TO PIECES! WE'RE SINKING-- BUT I'LL HELP YOU GET AWAY IN ONE OF THE SMALL BOATS!

WHY? SO *YOU* CAN HOLD ME FOR RANSOM-- YOU... YOU CUT-THROAT?

AND I'M NOT A CUT-THROAT! I'M THE SHIP'S DOCTOR! I WAS THE ONE WHO PERSUADED CAPTAIN FLOOD TO SPARE YOUR LIFE FOR RANSOM! BUT COME ON-- THERE'S NO TIME FOR TALK NOW!

IT... IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT FOR *ME*, TOO-- BUT I'VE BEEN TRYING TO DOWN MY FEELINGS FOR YOU, TRYING TO MAKE MYSELF *HATE* YOU! BUT THAT...THAT KISS TOLD ME WE WERE *DESTINED* FOR EACH OTHER!

NO-- BECAUSE I'VE *FALLEN IN LOVE WITH YOU!*

OHH!

OUR ONLY CHANCE IS TO JUMP BEFORE THE SHIP SINKS-- AND TRY TO SWIM TO SHORE!

BUT SHE WON'T SINK FOR ANOTHER FEW MINUTES! MEANWHILE IT'S MY DUTY AS A DOCTOR TO HELP THE WOUNDED AND THE DYING!

"OUT ON DECK..."

LOOK--THEY GOT OUR LAST LIFE-BOAT!

THAT'S THE BEST I CAN DO, CAPTAIN!

THANKS, LAD-- YE'VE BEEN THE BEST SAWBONES EVER T' SAIL THE SEVEN SEAS! I'VE NOT FORGOTTEN HOW YE PULLED ME THROUGH TIME AFTER TIME-- AND NOW THAT MY TIME'S NEARLY UP-- I'LL TELL YE WHERE MY TREASURE'S BURIED... OFF POINT LOOKOUT ON CHESAPEAKE BAY...

... AN' THEN MARK OFF 13 PACES DUE EAST-- FROM THE OVERHANGIN' ROCK ON THE WEST CLIFF-- AN' START *DIGGIN'!* NOW GIT OFF THE SHIP WHILE YE KIN---

GOODBYE, CAPTAIN-- I'LL NOT FORGET YOU!

"BUT SUDDENLY..."

BOOM!

THAT... LAST CANNON SHOT-- GASP!-- I CAN'T MOVE! GO ON AND JUMP-- I'D NEVER MAKE IT!

NO-- I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT YOU, BUT I *CAN* DIE WITH YOU! PERHAPS WE'LL MEET IN SOME OTHER, HAPPIER LIFE, MY DARLING--- OH, MY DARLING...

DARLING-- SPEAK TO ME!

JUMP-- LEAVE ME AND JUMP!

"THE BLACKNESS GAVE WAY TO LIGHT-- AND AS I OPENED MY EYES..."

I'M *NOT* ON THE SHIP-- I'M *NOT* DYING! AND YOU'RE NOT A PIRATE, NEIL!

EASY, DARLING-- YOU MUST HAVE FAINTED AND HAD ONE OF THOSE DREAMS AGAIN! WHAT WAS IT ABOUT *THIS* TIME?

"WHEN I'D TOLD NEIL..."

... AND NOW WE HAVE *PROOF* THAT REINCARNATION ACTUALLY HAPPENS! I HEARD CAPTAIN FLOOD REVEAL THE LOCATION OF THE TREASURE-- AND AS SOON AS I'M WELL ENOUGH, WE'RE GOING ON A *TREASURE HUNT!* IF WE FIND IT, WE'LL KNOW THAT WE *DID* HAVE ALL THOSE OTHER LIVES!

ALL RIGHT, DARLING-- I GUESS WE CAN TAKE A COUPLE OF DAYS OFF AND DRIVE DOWN TO POINT LOOKOUT! WE WON'T FIND ANY TREASURE, OF COURSE-- BUT AT LEAST IT'LL HELP YOU GET ALL OF THOSE RIDICULOUS NOTIONS ABOUT REINCARNATION OUT OF YOUR HEAD!

TWO WEEKS LATER...!

THIS IS THE SPOT CAPTAIN FLOOD MENTIONED! YOU CAN START DIGGING HERE, NEIL!

ALL RIGHT-- BUT WHEN WE DON'T FIND ANY TREASURE, DON'T START TELLING ME THAT SOMEONE ELSE DUG IT UP BEFORE US!

GREAT SCOTT! THERE *IS* SOMETHING BURIED HERE--- A... A *CHEST!*

OF COURSE, DARLING! AND NOW WE'LL HAVE ENOUGH TO SET YOU UP IN A MEDICAL RESEARCH LABORATORY ALL YOUR OWN!

YES-- AND IT'S ALSO ENOUGH TO GET *MARRIED* ON, SWEETHEART!

THERE...THERE'S A *FORTUNE* IN JEWELS AND GOLD HERE! THEN ALL THAT REINCARNATION STUFF *IS* TRUE!

HE'S WRONG, DEAR-- DEATH WILL NEVER PART US! AS LONG AS WE'RE DESTINED FOR EACH OTHER, WE'LL GO ON MEETING AGAIN AND AGAIN IN ALL OF OUR FUTURE REINCARNATIONS-- *TILL THE END OF TIME!*

YES---AND THAT DOESN'T HOLD TRUE ONLY FOR *US!* IF REINCARNATION *IS* A FACT, IT MEANS THAT *EVERYONE* ON EARTH HAS HAD MANY PREVIOUS LIVES, AND WILL LIVE THROUGH MANY MORE REINCARNATIONS---AND THOSE WHO ARE DESTINED FOR EACH OTHER WILL *ALWAYS* BE TOGETHER THROUGHOUT ETERNITY!

...I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU MAN AND WIFE, UNTIL DEATH DO YOU PART!

THE END

CAPTAIN SCIENCE and the INSIDIOUS DOCTOR KHARTOUM

FROM THE LONG FORGOTTEN TEMPLE OF KLAMETH, HIDDEN DEEP IN THE AGE-OLD FORTRESS CITY OF BTUH, ROSE A FORCE THAT THREATENED TO CRUSH OUR MODERN CIVILIZATION. JOURNEYING BACKWARD IN TIME, CAPTAIN SCIENCE, MASTER OF STAR-BORN KNOWLEDGE AND RIP, HIS YOUNG ASSISTANT, FIND A NEW WAY TO CONQUER A POWER MORE DANGEROUS THAN THE ATOM BOMB, AND DEFEAT THE EVIL GENIUS WHO WOULD SET IT FREE, "*THE INSIDIOUS DOCTOR KHARTOUM*"..

—ORLANDO + WOOD—

THE SECRET LABORATORY OF CAPTAIN SCIENCE AS HE, RIP AND LUANA LISTEN TO A MESSAGE FROM THE *ROBOT BRAIN*...

DANGER LIES FROM THE EAST. ONCE MORE, MEN ARE BEING ROUSED IN FANATICAL FURY BY A PROMISE OF POWER.

WHO IS. BEHIND ALL THIS AND WHAT IS HIS PURPOSE?

HIS NAME IS DOCTOR KHARTOUM. HIS PURPOSE, TO TAKE OVER THE WORLD! HE SEEKS TO UNLASH A FORGOTTEN POWER MORE EVIL THAN DEATH ITSELF!

TELL US MORE!

HE HAS SET UP HEADQUARTERS IN THE RUINS OF THE ANCIENT TEMPLE OF KLAMETH IN THE FORGOTTEN CITY OF DTUH, DEEP IN THE GOBI DESERT. HE MUST BE CONQUERED BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!

I'LL GET A READING FOR THE VIEWING SCREEN. TURN IT ON, AND WE'LL TAKE A LOOK AT THIS DOCTOR KHARTOUM.

RIP TUNES THE VIEWSCREEN AND ON ITS SURFACE APPEARS A FANTASTIC AND HORRIBLE SIGHT...

OMM GRACKA KLU!

KLAMENTH, TAKE YOUR SACRIFICE!

EEEYAAA

HE TAKES HIS PREY. NEXT TIME THE POWER OF KLAMETH WILL BE MINE!

TURN IT OFF! IT...IT'S TOO HORRIBLE! THAT POOR GIRL!

WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT THIS -- THIS MONSTER?

LET'S ASK THE BRAIN.

THERE IS ONLY ONE THING TO DO. YOU MUST JOURNEY BACK INTO TIME AND STOP THIS DANGER BEFORE DOCTOR KHARTOUM HAS A CHANCE TO USE IT!

JOURNEY BACK INTO TIME?

YES. I WILL TELL YOU HOW TO MAKE A MACHINE THAT WILL TAKE YOU BACK THROUGH TIME. YOU MUST ALSO LEARN THE LANGUAGE OF THE *ANCIENTS*, HAVE DRESS LIKE THEIRS, AND A WEAPON TO DESTROY THIS EVIL!

IN THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOW, THE BRAIN'S INSTRUCTIONS ARE CARRIED OUT AND AT LAST CAPTAIN SCIENCE AND RIP ARE READY...

WELL, THIS IS IT! GOODBYE, LUANA.

GOODBYE!

BE CAREFUL, BOTH OF YOU! GOODBYE.

IN WHAT SEEMS A BLINDING FLASH CAPTAIN SCIENCE AND RIP FIND THEMSELVES BEFORE AN INCREDIBLY ANCIENT TEMPLE...

THIS MUST BE BTUH AND THE TEMPLE OF KLAMETH AS IT WAS IN 10,000 B.C. SEEMS TO BE SOME KIND OF CELEBRATION.

LET'S FIND OUT. I'LL ASK THIS FELLOW!

WHAT IS GOING ON, BROTHER? WHAT TAKES PLACE TODAY?

DO YOU NOT KNOW? IT IS THE DAY KLAMETH CLAIMS HIS SACRIFICES. EVEN NOW THE PRIESTS GATHER IN THE OUTER TEMPLE FOR THE PROCESSION.

WE DID NOT KNOW. WE HAVE BUT COME FROM GLYETH. WE WOULD SEE THIS SACRIFICE.

YOU MUST BE MAD! NONE BUT THE PRIESTS MAY SEE GREAT KLAMETH CLAIM HIS OWN.

THERE IS ONLY ONE THING TO DO IF WE ARE TO ACCOMPLISH WHAT WE CAME FOR. WE MUST BECOME PRIESTS.

THAT IS EASIER SAID THAN DONE.

LOOKS LIKE IT'S ALL OVER FOR US.

WHILE THERE'S LIFE THERE'S HOPE!

TAKE THESE DOGS OF DOGS TO THE ALTAR. KLAMETH SHALL EAT DOUBLY WELL TODAY!

ONCE MORE THE RITES BEGIN AND THE EVIL GOD STIRS....

LOOK AT THAT! HOW...HOW CAN IT BE?

I THINK THEIR PRIESTS FOUND A WAY TO BRING *SOMETHING* FROM ANOTHER *DIMENSION*, BUT DIDN'T KNOW IT. THEY BELIEVE IT TO BE A GOD!

THE TENTACLE! IT'S REACHING FOR YOU!

THIS IS OUR CHANCE. I HOPE THE BRAIN DIDN'T FAIL US!

TURNING ON THE WEAPON HE BROUGHT WITH HIM, CAPTAIN SCIENCE BLASTS THE MONSTER TENTACLE WITH HY-SONIC RAYS, WITHERING IT..

LOOK, ITS POWER IS GONE! IT IS FALLING!

THESE RAYS ARE ALSO FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION. THEY WILL DRIVE IT BACK TO WHERE IT CAME FROM!

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

TO FINISH WHAT I STARTED!

THESE ARE NOT MEN! THEY ARE SPIRITS FROM THE NETHER WORLD. THEY DEFEAT GREAT KLAMETH!

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED! NOW TO GET OUT OF THIS MESS--I HOPE!

GORDON, LOOK OUT!

KILL HIM! HE HAS BEATEN KLAMETH, BUT HE IS NOT SAFE FROM OUR STEEL. THIS WE KNOW!

DEATH TO HIM WHO WOULD DEFILE KLAMETH...

HANG ON, RIP. THINGS ARE GOING TO POP!

UGH

EYAAA

SUDDENLY THE WHOLE TEMPLE CRASHES ABOUT THEM CRUSHING THE CRUEL PRIESTS OF KLAMETH IN THE RUINS...

CREAK...

SNAP!

GR-RACK!

WHAT HAPPENED? DID YOU THROW AN ATOM BOMB THROUGH THE ARCHWAY?

SOMETHING LIKE IT! THE RAYS FROM THAT TUBE SEALED THE ENTRANCE-OFF FOR GOOD!

AMID THE RUINS THAT ONCE WAS THE GREAT TEMPLE, CAPTAIN SCIENCE AND RIP, FREE THE GIRLS WHO WERE TO BE SACRIFICED TO THE EVIL GOD...

NEVER AGAIN WILL KLAMETH BE SEEN. YOU ARE FREE TO LIVE AGAIN!

THANK YOU... THANK YOU...

HERE WE GO, RIP. LUANA IS PULLING US BACK TO THE PRESENT.

IT IS TRUE! THEY ARE NOT HUMANS BUT POWERFUL SPIRITS. LOOK, THEY DISAPPEAR!

7.

SAFELY BACK AT THE LAB, THE TWO STEP FROM THE TIME MACHINE TO FIND LUANA EXCITEDLY WATCHING THE VIEW SCREEN...

YOU WEREN'T A MOMENT TOO SOON. LOOK AT THE SCREEN. DR. KHARTOUM IS TRYING AGAIN.

LET HIM. HE'S IN FOR A BIG SURPRISE.

LOOK, GORDON, HE'S CALLING KLAMETH OUT. AND... AND HE'S COMING!

JUST WATCH!

AS DR. KHARTOUM PERFORMS THE DREAD RITES, A SLIMY, HORRIBLE TENTACLE COMES FORTH...

THIS TIME I WILL CONQUER! THIS TIME I WILL DRAW KLAMETH OUT HIMSELF!

CONTINUING THE RITUAL DR. KHARTOUM ACTUALLY SUCCEEDS IN BRINGING KLAMETH BACK...

I'VE WON! I'VE WON! NOW ALL POWER WILL BE MINE!

SUDDENLY THERE IS A CATACLYSMIC EXPLOSION AND KLAMETH DISAPPEARS FOREVER AND WITH HIM DR. KHARTOUM.

WH--WHAT HAPPENED?

THE TRAP THAT WE SET THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO JUST WENT OFF. KLAMETH IS GONE FOR GOOD!

THE BRAIN HAD US FIX IT SO THAT WHOEVER CALLED KLAMETH FORTH AGAIN WOULD BE DISPOSED OF BY HI-SONIC RAYS.

WELL, THAT ENDS THE THREAT OF THE INSIDIOUS DOCTOR KHARTOUM.

AND GOOD RIDDANCE!

THE END...

"WHITE INDIAN" copyrighted by MAGAZINE ENTERPRIZES
"THE LOST LIVES OF LAURA HASTINGS" copyrighted by A.C.G.
"CAPTAIN SCIENCE" copyrighted by YOUTHFUL MAGAZINES

Jim Chase